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Personnel

**APPLYING FOR FLYING AND
ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAMS**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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(Mr Howard M. Peterson)
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This instruction sets eligibility guidelines, application requirements, and responsibilities for undergraduate flying training and astronaut nomination programs. This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive 36-22, *Military Training*. This instruction directs collecting and maintaining information subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 authorized by Title 10, U.S.C., Section 8013. System of Records Notice F035 MPC Q, *Officer Utilization Records System*, applies. Refer to **Attachment 1** for references, abbreviations, and acronyms. A sample of The Privacy Act Statement is included **Attachment 2**. Process supplements that affect any military personnel function as shown in Air Force Instruction (AFI) 37-160, volume 1, table 3.2, *The Air Force Publications and Forms Management Programs--Developing and Processing Publications*.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This change incorporates interim change (IC) 99-1 which changes the maximum age criteria to 30 and adds not to exceed 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) and instructs those applicants that exceed the new criteria to forward requests for waivers of age or TAFCS through the chain of command to CSAF for final action. Provides for the MAJCOM/CC as disapproval authority for waivers within the chain of command. Asks commanders to justify why supporting an individual over other qualified candidates who meet the criteria is in the best interest of the Air Force. Changes to CSAF to delegate the approval authority for all age waiver requests (paragraph **1.1.6**); changes the application age and criteria for officers serving in a non-rated AFSC to be on Extended Active Duty (EAD) for 1 year. In addition, applicant must serve the accession AFSC training active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the ADSC, and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (**Figure 1.1**); changes the application age criteria for officers serving an Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) education active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the AFIT Education mandatory ADSC and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (**Figure 1.1**); changes rated navigators to serve 2 ½ years of rated duty (as a navigator) prior to SUPT

entry and may apply with 2 years rated duty (6 months prior) and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (**Figure 1.1.**); adds to criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training, officers of the Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve (AFR) as ineligible, regardless of length of active duty or EAD status. Renders officers ineligible who are pending or have an established Date of Separation (DOS) by request or under 7-day option (**Figure 1.1.**); changes the address to forward age and TAFCS waivers to HQ AF/DPFFF, 1040 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1040 (**Attachment 3, A3.2.**); adds the Wing, NAF and MAJCOM support for waiver requests (**Attachment 3, A3.3.5.**); and changes the office symbol from DPAOY3 TO DPAOT3 throughout the AFI; and converts all bulleted items throughout the publication to a digital numbering scheme. See the last attachment of the publication, IC 99-1, for the complete IC. A bar (|) indicates revision from the previous edition.

Chapter 1—UNDERGRADUATE FLYING TRAINING (UFT)	4
1.1. Application Requirements	4
1.2. How to Apply	5
1.3. The Military Personnel Flight (MFP)	6
1.4. Preparing for the UFT Boards	7
1.5. What To Do After the Board Meets	7
1.6. The Selectee's Commander	8
Figure 1.1. Eligibility Criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training	8
Chapter 2—USAF ASTRONAUT NOMINATION PROGRAM	11
2.1. Application Requirements	11
2.2. How To Apply	11
2.3. Preparing for the Board	12
2.4. What To Do After the Board	13
2.5. Assigning Candidates to NASA	13
2.6. Form Prescribed	14
Figure 2.1. Astronaut Eligibility/Ineligibility Criteria	14
Attachment 1—GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION	16
Attachment 2—PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT	19
Attachment 3—AGE WAIVER REQUEST	20
Attachment 4—SAMPLE ADSC STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT	21
Attachment 5—QUALIFYING DEGREE FIELDS FOR THE ASTRONAUT NOMINATION PROGRAM	22

AFI36-2205 26 JULY 1999	3
Attachment 6—SYNOPSIS OF MEDICAL STANDARDS	24
Attachment 7—SAMPLE ASTRONAUT NOMINATION	25
Attachment 8—RECOMMENDATION FOR SPACE SHUTTLE DUTY	27
Attachment 9—IC 99-1 TO AFI 36-2205, APPLYING FOR FLYING AND ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAMS	28

Chapter 1

UNDERGRADUATE FLYING TRAINING (UFT)

1.1. Application Requirements. Refer to [Figure 1.1](#) for eligibility criteria. The applicant must:

1.1.1. Meet all medical standards specified in AFI 48-123, *Medical Examination and Medical Standards* (formerly AFR 160-43) for pilot or navigator training. NOTE: Officers attending UFT who are eliminated for medical reasons may reapply for UFT board consideration when they medically requalify. They must meet all age and eligibility criteria and compete on the first UFT selection board after being medically qualified.

1.1.2. A flying training eliminee (FTE) who is recommended for Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training (SUNT) by the eliminating or approving authority, may exceed the 27 1/2 year age limit at time of entry into SUNT. The FTE must be selected for SUNT while in eliminee status. SUNT must be the initial training following the elimination from pilot training. Active duty officers lose their eliminee status if they depart permanent change of station (PCS) from the UFT training location, or are awarded a new Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC). FTEs must meet the minimum AFOQT requirements outlined in paragraph [1.1.3](#). ANG and AFRES FTEs may return to their home station to await next available training class start date without loss of FTE status.

1.1.3. Attain minimum required AFOQT Scores. NOTE: See AFI 36-2605, *Air Force Military Personnel Testing Systems*, for AFOQT procedures. For the purpose of this application, AFOQT scores do not expire. Requirements:

1.1.3.1. Score in the 25th percentile or higher in the respective category (pilot or navigator-technical) composite for which they are applying.

1.1.3.2. The combined total score of the pilot and the navigator composites must be at least 50th percentile.

1.1.3.3. At no time shall the pilot or navigator composite be less than 10 percentile.

1.1.4. Pilot applicants must complete Basic Attributes Test (BAT). Schedule BAT testing through your Military Personnel Flight (MPF) Customer Service Section.

1.1.5. The Pilot Candidate Selection Method (PCSM) combines the BAT score with the pilot AFOQT score and private flying time. A PCSM score is a requirement for all individuals applying for pilot training through any of the Air Force pilot training accession sources (see AFI 36-2605, attachment 3). AFI 36-2605, [Attachment 1](#) clarifies the procedure for applicants to follow when updating the flying hours used in the PCSM calculation. All updates to flying hours must be processed 30 days prior to selection board date to allow updates to the PCSM. Any updates processed after the cut-off may not be processed in sufficient time for review by the selection board. Enter the PCSM score in the block provided on AF Form 215, **Officer Application for Training**.

1.1.6. Applicants must not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by the start date of the board's first available Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT) class. For those applicants who do not meet the above criteria, they must submit a complete copy of the UFT application with request for age or TAFCS waiver and will be processed through the applicants immediate Squadron Commander, Wing/CC, NAF/CC, MAJCOM/CC and forward to the CSAF for final action. Since there are sufficient qualified applicants, commanders need to justify why sup-

porting an individual over other qualified candidates who meet the criteria is in the best interest of the Air Force. Within the chain of command, disapproval authority is vested in the MAJCOM/CC. If disapproved, the application will be returned to the applicant. If the requested age or TAFCS waiver is approved by CSAF after the board cut-off date, the applicant will be eligible to compete on the next selection board. Air Force Reserve (AFR) age and TAFCS waiver requests are processed through HQ AFRC/DPMR. Coordinate Air National Guard (ANG) waiver requests through the State Adjutant General to the National Guard Bureau (NGB). The CSAF may delegate the approval authority for all age waiver requests.

1.2. How to Apply:

1.2.1. Complete AF Form 215 plus two copies. (See reverse side of AF Form 215 for additional instructions). The same AF Form 215 may be used for a maximum of 1 year, (from date in date block). After 1 year, the AF Form 215 must be reaccomplished. An AF Form 215 which has met one board or is more than 6 months old must be updated by personal letter from the applicant. Letters must not exceed one page in length and should be in bullet format. As a minimum, applicants must state their intentions to meet the next UFT board and for which categories they are applying. If applicable, applicants must also include: total civilian flying time, date last flown, a copy of the updated log book entries. Applicants may use the remarks section of the AF Form 215 to pass on their desires, motivation, flying skills, and personal achievements or qualifications to the selection board members. Remarks are restricted to the space provided and will be in bullet format, typed in 10 pitch. The immediate commander or equivalent must indorse the application. Additional indorsements on the AF Form 215 must be within the applicant's chain of command and will not exceed a level equivalent to the officer's senior level reviewer. The indorsement and recommendation must be confined to the spaces provided on the AF Form 215. Separate letters of recommendation or additional indorsements (other than the applicant's personal update letter when applicable), to the AF Form 215 will not be accepted.

1.2.2. Mark the appropriate block of the AF Form 215 for Pilot Training or Navigator Training. If you are applying for both, mark both blocks.

1.2.3. Include an original and two complete copies of the results of a Class I flying physical (for pilot) or a Class IA flying physical (for navigator). For the purpose of UFT applications, physical evaluations are valid for two years from date of the physical. The physical will include the SF 88, **Report of Medical Examination**, SF 93, **Report of Medical History**, the original Electrocardiogram (EKG) tracing and panoramic dental x-ray, any other medical documents pertinent to the physical examination. Schedule your physical so you can include this documentation with the UFT application prior to the application cut-off date.

1.2.4. Sign and submit a statement of agreement (see [Attachment 4](#)) to serve the minimum Active Duty Service Commitment (ADSC) after completion of UFT according to AFI 36-2107, *Active Duty Service Commitments*.

1.2.5. Document your civilian flying experience. Include a photocopy of your Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) license and last page of your pilots log book reflecting your total hours flown or a certified letter from a flying club or flying service stating the type of instruction you have received and the total number of hours you have flown.

1.2.6. If you are an officer of the Biomedical Sciences Corps (BSC), Medical Service Corps (MSC), or Nurse Corps (NC), send a request for transfer to the Line of the Air Force. Sign and date it, include the transfer request with your application.

1.2.7. Hand-carry the completed AF Form 215 and attached documents to the MPF.

1.2.8. Notify the servicing MPF immediately if your medical status changes.

1.3. The Military Personnel Flight (MPF):

1.3.1. Verifies that the applicant's AFOQT scores qualify (paragraph 1.1.3.) and are correctly entered on AF Form 215. Returns applications with disqualifying AFOQT scores. (Refer to Figure 1.1. eligibility criteria.)

1.3.2. Disapproves applications that do not meet the minimum application standards of this instruction. (Refer to Figure 1.1. eligibility criteria.)

1.3.3. Sends HQ AFPC/DPAOY a memorandum (see AFI 36-2605) showing all AFOQT retakes after the applicant's UFT submission.

1.3.4. Ensures that the applicant completes mandatory utilization requirements for the current AFSC (see Figure 1.1.).

1.3.5. Checks that the applicant documented any applicable civilian flying experience.

1.3.6. Makes sure that applications from medically qualified applicants include a complete medical examination report in original and two copies. (see AFI 48-123).

1.3.7. Advises applicants on medical waiver procedures:

1.3.7.1. HQ AETC, DCS/Medical Services and Training, Directorate of Professional Services, Aerospace Medicine and Physical Standards Division (SGPS), is the certification and waiver authority for UFT medical examinations as delegated by HQ AFMOA, Office of the Surgeon General, Air Force Medical Operations Agency, Aerospace Medicine Consultants Division (SGPA).

1.3.7.2. The medical waiver review will be on an individual basis by HQ AETC/SGPS. HQ AFMOA/ SGPA has final waiver authority.

1.3.7.3. The medical waiver requests must contain the same forms as for all qualified applicants plus an evaluation of the medical problem from an appropriate specialist.

1.3.8. Advises HQ AFPC/DPAOY3 and disposes of the applicant's AF Form 215 as directed by AFI 37-133, volume 2, *Disposition of Air Force Records--Records Disposition Schedule*, if the applicant is found not medically qualified.

1.3.9. Screens applications. Attaches the original and two copies of SF 88; the original and two copies of SF 93; EKG tracings and panoral x-rays, copies of other required medical forms; required signed statements; documentation of applicable civilian flying experience; and request for transfer to the Line of the Air Force (if applicable).

1.3.10. Forwards application materials (with original and two copies of AF Form 215) to HQ AFPC/DPAOY3, 550 C Street West, Suite 31, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4733.

1.3.11. Notifies HQ AFPC/DPAOY3 immediately if the applicant withdraws or becomes disqualified before starting training.

1.3.12. Forwards the statement of ADSC agreement to the master personnel records after the selectee accepts UFT training.

1.4. Preparing for the UFT Boards:

1.4.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOY3:

1.4.1.1. Announces UFT boards by AIG 8106 message at least 4 months before the board date.

1.4.1.2. Makes sure the board gets all required application materials.

1.4.1.3. Processes applications and includes them with the officer's personnel record for the board to consider.

1.4.1.4. Convenes a four-member board including:

1.4.1.4.1. Board president a (non-voting), rated colonel (06) delegated by HQ AFPC/CC.

1.4.1.4.2. A rated colonel from AFPC as the board chairman.

1.4.1.4.3. Two lieutenant colonels who are current or previous flying squadron commanders.

1.4.1.4.4. The board selection is made by HQ AFPC/DPAOY3, from MAJCOMs with flying missions on a rotational basis.

1.4.1.5. Ensures the applicants are not reassigned or involuntarily extended without prior coordination with HQ AFPC/DPAOY3.

1.5. What To Do After the Board Meets:

1.5.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOY3:

1.5.1.1. Sends the list of selectees to MPF customer service units by AIG 8106 message. The message explains how to notify successful candidates and release the information publicly (includes MINIMIZE).

1.5.1.2. Sends the selection list to HQ AFPC/DPAPPO.

1.5.1.3. Board scores and internal working papers will normally be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). However, to preclude inappropriate attempts to invade the deliberative processes of the board, those records are destroyed after the board proceedings are completed. After results have been released, information on the number of officers considered and selected and how the board was organized may be disclosed.

1.5.2. HQ AFPC/DPPAOS:

1.5.2.1. Informs the servicing MPF about the class, base assignment, and reporting instructions for those selected for flying training.

1.5.2.2. Processes assignments as directed in AFI 36-2110, *Assignments*.

1.5.3. Local MPFs:

1.5.3.1. Notify the immediate commander of each selected candidate in the commander's service areas 1 day prior to public release date.

1.5.3.2. Give each selected candidate 7 days from notification to accept or decline UFT. Counsel officers who decline UFT that they are ineligible to reapply.

1.5.3.3. Notify HQ AFPC/DPPAOS, 550 C Street West, Suite 10, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4712, of candidates' who decline their UFT selection.

1.5.4. Maximum Allowed Age. Selected candidates who are close to the maximum allowed age for UFT may return to Continental United States (CONUS) before the normal Date Eligible for Return from Overseas (DEROS), according to AFI 36-2110.

1.6. The Selectee's Commander:

1.6.1. Monitors selectee's performance from selection until they depart for flight training.

1.6.2. Notifies HQ AFPC/DPAOY3 if an officer's performance or conduct becomes questionable or if the commander believes the selectee should be removed from the select list for cause.

| Figure 1.1. Eligibility Criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training.

Be a commissioned USAF Officer with a minimum 1 year on Extended Active Duty (EAD) by first available class start date.

Officers serving in a non-rated AFSC must serve the accession AFSC training active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the ADSC. Applicants will not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Officers serving an Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) education active duty service commitment (ADSC) (for example, AECP, AFIT School of Engineering, or AFIT civilian institution) may be considered no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the AFIT Education mandatory active duty service commitment (ADSC). Applicants will not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Rated navigators must serve 2 ½ years of rated duty (as a navigator) prior to SUPT entry and may apply with 2 years rated duty (6 months prior). They will not exceed 30 years of age or 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Ineligibility Criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training

Officers selected for or attending AFIT-funded education programs, until completion of that education.

United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Cadets, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Cadets (AFROTC) and Officer Training School (OTS) Cadets, not on Extended Active

Duty (EAD).

Officers as a resource of the Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve (AFR), regardless of length of active duty or EAD status.

Individuals eliminated from any flying training course to include UFT, the USAF Enhanced Flight Screening Program (EFSP), the Pilot Indoctrination Program (PIP), Flight Instruction Program (FIP) and the Introductory Flying Training (IFT) conducted by or for the Armed Forces of the United States, with the following provisions:

1. Those eliminated for military deficiency or self-initiated-elimination (SIE) reasons before, during or after actual course completion, or who decline UFT attendance.
2. Individuals eliminated for reasons other than those mentioned above, unless specifically recommended for further pilot or navigator training by the eliminating (or approving) authority.

Individuals eliminated (for reasons over which they had control) from a commissioning program which forms a part of the sequence in which an aeronautical rating may be obtained from any of the United States Armed Forces.

Officers who hold or held the aeronautical rating of pilot or navigator, or comparable rating in any of the United States Armed Forces. (Officers who held aeronautical ratings in the armed forces may apply for a comparable USAF rating according to AFI 11-402, Aviation Service, Parachutist, Aeronautical Ratings, and Badges).

Officers who self-initiated-elimination (SIE) or are eliminated from any Formal Training Course for Academic Deficiency.

Officers attending UFT who are eliminated for short-term medical reasons (as determined by the eliminating authority) will be re-entered in the same UFT program when they medically requalify. Those officers who are eliminated for medical reasons of a long-term (1 year or more), may reapply for UFT board consideration when they are medically qualified. They must meet all age and eligibility criteria and compete on the first UFT selection board after being medically qualified.

Any officer who declines or declined UFT after being selected, regardless of branch of service.

Officers of the medical and dental (physicians and dentists) corps, chaplains and judge advocates.

Officers permanently disqualified for aviation service at any time.

Officers pending or have an established Date of Separation (DOS) by request or under 7-Day option.

Officers who have any quality control assignment restrictions (AFI 36-2110).

Officers selected for or currently enrolled in a course of training leading to an active duty service commitment (ADSC) requirement, until completion of training. (Applies to initial training only, not follow-on type training.)

Officers selected for or currently enrolled in SUNT are ineligible to apply for pilot training until completion of SUNT and award of aeronautical rating of navigator.

Individuals who have illegally, wrongfully, or improperly experimented with, used, possessed, sold, or transferred any narcotic substance, dangerous drug, intoxicating inhaled substance, or controlled substance as established by Title 21, U.S.C., Section 812 when supported by evidence.

Officers eliminated from SUNT or those officers who have, at any time, voluntarily declined to attend SUNT.

Officers eliminated from pilot training unless specifically recommended by the eliminating (or approving) authority.

Officers who self-initiated-elimination (SIE) or are eliminated from any Formal Training Course for Academic Deficiency.

Chapter 2

USAF ASTRONAUT NOMINATION PROGRAM

2.1. Application Requirements. Refer to [Figure 2.1](#) for eligibility criteria:

2.1.1. Pilot applicants must:

2.1.1.1. Hold at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in engineering, biological science, physical science, or mathematics. An advanced degree is desirable. The quality of the academic record is important. (See [Attachment 5](#) for qualifying degrees).

2.1.1.2. Complete at least 1,000 hours of pilot-in-command time (aircraft commander qualification or higher) in jet aircraft. Flight test experience is highly desirable.

2.1.1.3. Pass a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Class I space physical (USAF Flying Class II, long physical). If your most recent flight physical (not periodic) is not current within 1 year from the date of the selection board, immediately schedule the required flight physical. There are no provisions for waiver of NASA's medical standards. See [Attachment 5](#) for a synopsis of medical standards for pilot astronaut candidates.

2.1.2. Mission Specialist candidates must:

2.1.2.1. Hold at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in engineering, biological science, physical science, or mathematics. The quality of the academic record is important. (See [Attachment 5](#) for qualifying degrees.)

2.1.2.2. Have at least 3 years of related, progressively responsible, professional experience after completing the degree. An advanced degree is desirable. **NOTE:** Rated personnel may substitute flying experience or an advanced degree for all or part of the 3-year experience requirement. For example, a master's degree equals 1 year of experience. A doctorate equals 3 years of experience.

2.1.2.3. Pass a NASA Class II (USAF Flying Class II, long physical). If your Flying physical is not current within 1 year of the selection board date, immediately schedule the appropriate physical. There are no provisions for waiver of NASA's medical standards. See [Attachment 5](#) for a synopsis of mission specialist astronaut candidate medical standards.

2.2. How To Apply:

2.2.1. Write to HQ AFPC/DPAOY3 or phone DSN 487-5035 to request an application package. Include your name, rank, SSN, military mailing address including zip code, and the position for which you are applying (pilot, mission specialist, or both; enlisted applicants are restricted to the mission specialist category).

2.2.2. Include the original and one copy of each of these documents with your application:

2.2.2.1. Application for Space Shuttle Duty (see [Attachment 6](#)).

2.2.2.2. A memorandum of recommendation (submitted in triplicate). See [Attachment 7](#).

2.2.2.3. One complete copy (no originals) of all medical records. Sort your records in chronological order. Send them in an AF Form 2100, **Health Record**, folder.

2.2.2.4. Background Survey Questionnaire 79-2.

- 2.2.2.5. SF 86, **Questionnaire for Sensitive Positions.**
- 2.2.2.6. SF 93, **Report of Medical History.**
- 2.2.2.7. OF 612, **Optional Application for Federal Employment.** NASA reviews OF 612 in lieu of the applicant's selection folder.
- 2.2.2.8. JSC Form 465, **Supplemental Medical History.** (Provided in application.)
- 2.2.2.9. JSC Form 490, **Supplemental Information.** (Provided in application.)
- 2.2.2.10. Complete college transcripts from all schools (undergraduate and graduate).
- 2.2.2.11. GRE results, if available.
- 2.2.2.12. JSC Form 603, **Supplemental Record of Aeronautical Experience** (for pilot applicants).
- 2.2.2.13. (Optional and voluntary) SF Form 181, **Race and National Origin Identification.**

2.3. Preparing for the Board:

2.3.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOY3:

- 2.3.1.1. Announces the next astronaut selection board by AIG 8106 message as soon as NASA announces its intent to hire astronauts.
- 2.3.1.2. Sends an AIG 8106 message to all MPFs to inform applicants, the base Information Management (IM) office, and the Public Affairs (PA) office.
- 2.3.1.3. Verifies candidates' eligibility. Sends application packages to qualified applicants.
- 2.3.1.4. Processes applications according to governing directives.
- 2.3.1.5. Convenes a NASA selection board approximately 2 months before the date when NASA requires nominees. Include one rated colonel from AFPC as board chairman. Chairmanship rotates between the AFPC board member and the senior Air Force NASA astronaut board member.
- 2.3.1.6. Makes sure that candidates receive TDY for an interview with NASA.

2.3.2. HQ AFPC/DPML:

- 2.3.2.1. Provides liaison with NASA officials.
- 2.3.2.2. Notifies AFPC when NASA publishes the call for astronauts.

2.3.3. Appointing Board Members to the Air Force Astronaut Nomination Board:

- 2.3.3.1. AF/DPG appoints one brigadier general as board president.
- 2.3.3.2. AF/DPOB appoints two colonels.
- 2.3.3.3. HQ AFSPC/DEO appoints two Air Force Astronauts (Colonel or Lt Col).
- 2.3.3.4. MAJCOMs on a rotational basis, appoint one CMSgt Senior Enlisted Advisor to assist the board in reviewing enlisted applicants.

2.3.4. Appointing the Board Medical Screening Panel: The panel reviews applicants' medical records to confirm that they meet NASA's medical standards for shuttle duty:

2.3.4.1. HQ AFSPC/SG heads the medical screening panel.

2.3.4.2. HQ AETC/SGPS appoints two aeromedical technicians.

2.3.4.3. Armstrong Laboratory/AOC provides a flight surgeon.

2.3.5. HQ AFPC/CC:

2.3.5.1. Approves the Nomination Board results.

2.3.5.2. Approves waivers for nominees with fewer than 5 years of TAFCS.

2.4. What To Do After the Board:

2.4.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOY3 must:

2.4.1.1. Notify medically unqualified applicants after medical screening.

2.4.1.2. Send the list of Air Force nominees to MAJCOM/FOA/DRU commanders. The nominees' wing or subordinate commanders get official notification by the public release date.

2.4.1.3. Forward each nominee's NASA application package to NASA.

2.4.2. NASA:

2.4.2.1. Determines which applicants meet basic requirements.

2.4.2.2. Interviews qualified candidates.

2.4.2.3. Selects candidates for astronaut duty. Assignment to NASA shall in no way affect the selectee status, office, rank or grade which he or she may occupy or hold, or any emolument, prerequisite, right, privilege, or benefit incident to or rising out of any such status, office, rank, or grade. Officers and enlisted members assigned to NASA will remain subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and to Air Force policies and directives concerned with regard to military discipline, leave, flying requirements, and other policies and directives which do not affect responsibilities exercised in NASA.

2.4.2.4. Notifies selected candidates.

2.4.2.5. Prepares each military member's performance report in accordance with Air Force directives.

2.5. Assigning Candidates to NASA:

2.5.1. HQ AFPC/DPAOY3:

2.5.1.1. Releases the list of selected candidates to all MPFs after NASA completes the selection process.

2.5.1.2. Sends the list to HQ AFPC/DPAOO1.

2.5.2. HQ AFPC/DPAOO1:

2.5.2.1. Gives the servicing MPF reporting instructions for candidates selected for astronaut duty.

2.5.2.2. Processes assignments in accordance with AFI 36-2110.

2.5.3. Local MPFs:

2.5.3.1. Officially notify selected candidates through their immediate commanders, on public release.

2.5.3.2. Give each candidate 7 calendar days after notification to accept or decline the assignment in accordance with AFI 36-2110.

2.6. Form Prescribed. AF Form 215, **Officer Application for Training.**

Figure 2.1. Astronaut Eligibility/Ineligibility Criteria.

ASTRONAUT ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible

Officer applicants for pilot and mission specialist and Enlisted applicants for mission specialist duty must be on Extended Active Duty (EAD) with a minimum of 5 years of EAD date and a minimum 5 years TAFCS for officers or TAFMSD for enlisted by the board month. All applicants must be citizens of the United States.

Ineligible

Ineligible academic criteria. Both officer and enlisted applicants for the astronaut candidate nomination program must meet the same basic education and medical standard requirements for NASA engineering and scientific positions. There are no waivers to these requirements.

The following degree fields, while related to engineering and the sciences, are not considered qualifying:

Degrees in technology (engineering technology, aviation technology, or medical technology).

Degrees in psychology (except for clinical psychology, physiological psychology, or experimental psychology).

Degrees in nursing.

Degrees in social sciences (geography, anthropology, or archaeology).

Degrees in aviation management, or a similar field.

DONALD L. PETERSON, Lt General, USAF
DCS/Personnel

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

Executive Order 9397

System of Records Notice F035 MPC Q

Title 10, U.S.C., Section 8013

Title 21, U.S.C., Section 812

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADSC—Active Duty Service Commitment

AACP—Airman Education and Commissioning Program

AF/DP—Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

AFIT—Air Force Institute of Technology

AFOQT—Air Force Officer Qualifying Test

AFRES—Air Force Reserve

AFRESI—Air Force Reserve Instruction

AFROTC—Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps

AFSPC—Air Force Space Command

AIG—Address Indicating Group

ANG—Air National Guard

ANGI—Air National Guard Instruction

BAT—Basic Attributes Test

BSC—Biomedical Sciences Corps

CONUS—Continental United States

DEROS—Date Eligible for Return from Overseas

DOS—Date of Separation

DRU—Direct Reporting Unit

EAD—Extended Active Duty

ENJJPT—EuroNATO Joint Jet Pilot Training

FAA—Federal Aviation Administration

FIP—Flight Instruction Program

FOA—Field Operating Agency

FSP—Flight Screening Program

FTE—Flying Training Eliminee

GRE—Graduate Record Examination

JSC—Johnson Space Center

LOE—Letter of Evaluation

MAJCOM—Major Command

MI—Middle Initial

MPF—Military Personnel Flight

MSC—Medical Service Corps

MSPPC—Classification and Training Unit

NASA—National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NC—Nurse Corps

NGB—National Guard Bureau

OER—Officer Effectiveness Report

OPM—Office of Personnel Management

OPR—Officer Performance Report

OTS—Officer Training School

PCS—Permanent Change of Station

PCSM—Pilot Candidate Selection Method

PDS—Personnel Data System

PIP—Pilot Instruction Program

PM—Professional Military Education

PRP—Personnel Reliability Program

SG—Office of the Command Surgeon

SIE—Self Initiated Elimination

SPTC—Specified Period of Time Contract

SUNT—Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training

SUPT—Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training

TAFCSD—Total Active Federal Commission Service Date

TAFMSD—Total Active Federal Military Service Date

TOS—Time on Station

UFT—Undergraduate Flying Training (includes SUPT, ENJJPT, SUNT)

SUPT—HSpecialized Undergraduate Pilot TrainingHelicopter

USAFA—United States Air Force Academy

USAFRS—United States Air Force Recruiting Service

USAFSAM—USAF School of Aerospace Medicine

Attachment 2

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authority: Title 10, U.S.C., Section 8013, authorizes the Secretary of the Air Force to prescribe publications to carry out his or her functions, powers, and duties; implementation of AFI 36-2205, *Applying for Flying, Space and Missile, and Astronaut Training Programs*; and Executive Order 9397.

Purpose: SSN is used as positive identification.

Routine uses: None.

All information you provide is voluntary; however, you must provide this information to be eligible to compete.

Attachment 3**AGE WAIVER REQUEST**

A3.1. Include (in memo form): Appropriate letterhead; current address; and request for age waiver.

A3.2. Send Age Waiver Requests to: HQ AF/DPFFF
1040 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1040

A3.3. Applying for an Age Waiver:

A3.3.1. Submit an age waiver request if you can document an Air Force administrative, counseling, or medical error that occurred within the last 2 years that prevented you from applying for UFT while otherwise eligible.

A3.3.2. Administrative error: Committed by an Air Force agency or otherwise beyond your control. Examples of administrative errors include submitting:

A3.3.2.1. An application package to your MPF to process but the MPF fails to forward it to HQ AFPC/DPAOY3, sends it to the wrong address, or does not properly screen your application package for the required forms.

A3.3.2.2. An incomplete or incorrect medical form.

A3.3.3. Counseling error: An Air Force agency gave you incorrect information and you could not verify the information on your own. For example, you were told you could not apply for UFT when you actually do meet all the eligibility criteria.

A3.3.4. Medical error: An incorrect diagnosis of your medical condition prevented you from applying when you were otherwise eligible. For example, you were diagnosed as having a disqualifying condition but a review showed you are medically qualified. Attach the original medical form and the medical authority's supporting comments when you submit an age waiver request based on a medical error.

A3.3.5. Include names, dates, and other details to document your case. Submit your age or TAFCS waiver request letter with your UFT application package. Your request must include Wing, NAF, and MAJCOM support.

Attachments:

Name, Grade
Service Duty Title

Attachment 4**SAMPLE
ADSC STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT**

I have been counseled on the ADSCs associated with selection to UFT and have had time to review and read AFI 36-2107, *Active Duty Service Commitments*. I fully understand that I will receive the appropriate UFT commitment after I am awarded my aeronautical rating. If the ADSC changes, I will serve the ADSC in effect at the time I receive my aeronautical rating. I agree to serve the appropriate ADSC per AFI 36-2107 if I am eliminated or withdrawn from UFT. I understand that when I get my UFT ADSC (whether from being awarded the aeronautical rating or because I was eliminated or withdrew from training), my DOS will be adjusted to match my UFT ADSC if my DOS is less than the applicable ADSC.

(signature and date)

(printed or typed: first name, middle initial (MI), last name, SSN)

Witnessed by MPF official:

Attachment 5

QUALIFYING DEGREE FIELDS FOR THE ASTRONAUT NOMINATION PROGRAM

This list is not intended to be a complete listing of qualifying degree fields for the Astronaut Nomination Program. Rather, it is a useful but non-restrictive guide.

ENGINEERING

Aeronautical Engineering
 Aerospace Engineering
 Agricultural Engineering
 Architectural Engineering
 Astronautical Engineering
 Bioengineering
 Biomedical Engineering
 Ceramic Engineering
 Chemical Engineering
 Civil Engineering
 Construction Engineering
 Electrical Engineering
 Electronics Engineering
 Engineering, General
 Engineering Mechanics
 Engineering Physics
 Environmental Engineering
 Geological Engineering
 Geophysical Engineering
 Industrial Engineering
 Marine Engineering
 Materials Engineering
 Mechanical Engineering
 Metallurgical Engineering
 Mineral Engineering
 Mining Engineering
 Nuclear Engineering
 Ocean Engineering
 Engineering
 Transportation Engineering

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Anatomy
 Bacteriology
 Biochemistry
 Biology, General
 Biophysics
 Biostatistics
 Botany
 Cell Biology
 Ecology
 Embryology
 Entomology
 Genetics
 Histology
 Marine Biology
 Microbiology
 Molecular Biology
 Neurosciences
 Nutrition, Scientific
 Pathology
 Pharmacology
 Physiology
 Plant Pathology
 Plant Pharmacology
 Plant Physiology
 Radiobiology
 Toxicology
 Wildlife Biology
 Zoology

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Analytical Chemistry
 Astronomy
 Astrophysics
 Atmospheric Science
 Chemistry, General
 Earth Science, General
 Geochemistry
 Geology
 Geophysics
 Inorganic Chemistry
 Metallurgy
 Meteorology
 Molecular Physics
 Nuclear Physics
 Oceanography
 Organic Chemistry
 Pharmaceutical Chemistry
 Physical Chemistry
 Physical Science, General

MATHEMATICS

Applied Mathematics
 Mathematics, General
 Statistics, Mathematical
 Statistics, Theoretical

COMPUTER SCIENCE

(Scientific Engineering,
 or Mathematical
 applications)

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Dentistry

Medicine

Osteopathic Medicine

Veterinary Medicine

Attachment 6**SYNOPSIS OF MEDICAL STANDARDS****Pilot Astronaut Candidate:**

Distant visual acuity:	20/50 or better uncorrected, correctable to 20/20, each eye		
Blood pressure:	Maximum of 140/90 measured in a sitting position		
Height:	Between 64 and 76 inches.		
Auditory acuity:	Hearing loss not to exceed:		
Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000
Both Ears	30db	25db	25db

Mission Specialist Astronaut Candidate:

Distant visual acuity:	20/200 or better uncorrected, correctable to 20/20, each eye.		
Blood pressure:	Maximum of 140/90 measured in a sitting position.		
Height	Between 58 1/2 and 76 inches		
Auditory Acuity:	Hearing loss not to exceed		
Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000
Better Ear	30db	30db	30db
Worse Ear	35db	50db	50db

Attachment 7

SAMPLE ASTRONAUT NOMINATION

MEMORANDUM FOR HQ AFPC/DPAOY3

THRU: Wing Commander or Equivalent

FROM: Current Address

SUBJECT: Application for Space Shuttle Duty

I request that I be considered for duty as a space shuttle pilot, mission specialist, or both (specify) with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration beginning in (appropriate year).

Name: (last), (first) (middle)

SSN: Grade:

Current military address and DSN phone number:

TAFCSO: (Enlisted applicants should include the TAFMSO).

Flying experience (if applicable):

- a. Total hours:
- b. Total hours within last twelve months:
- c. List types of military aircraft flown and hours in each type: (list the most recent first including month and year last flown)
- d. Test pilot school attended and graduation date:
- e. Flight test experience:
- f. Operational experience:
- g. Combat experience: (number of missions and hours)

Educational background:

- a. Service schools, method of completion, and date:
- b. Academic achievements:
 - (1) Colleges and years attended:
 - (2) Degrees: include majors, minors, and honors, and years you graduated:
- c. Grade point average (on the 4.0 scale) undergraduate:
- d. Grade point average (on the 4.0 scale) graduate:
- e. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score and percentile:

Experience and technical competence (optional for pilot candidates, mandatory for mission specialist candidates):

- a. Postgraduate job experience (degree related) (in years): Brief description of duties: (Comments should be specific, factual, and brief)
- b. Experience in space-related field (in years): Brief description of duties:
- c. Flight experience (nonrated applicants only) in hours:

Any additional experience or expertise pertinent to pilot or mission specialist astronaut duties:

Signature

Name, Grade

Service Duty Title (if applicable)

Attachment 8

RECOMMENDATION FOR SPACE SHUTTLE DUTY

MEMORANDUM FOR HQ AFPC/DPAOY3

FROM: CC

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Space Shuttle Duty

Include a memorandum of recommendation with the application package. Include only one memorandum of recommendation. The reviewers will not consider any additional memorandums, although they will be kept in the applicant's file. The memorandum of recommendation should assess and recommend the applicant as a prospective astronaut.

Signature, Grade

Title (cannot exceed applicant's performance reviewer)

Attachment 9

IC 99-1 TO AFI 36-2205, APPLYING FOR FLYING AND ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAMS

26 JULY 1999

This change incorporates interim change (IC) 99-1 which changes the maximum age criteria to 30 and adds not to exceed 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) and instructs those applicants that exceed the new criteria to forward requests for waivers of age or TAFCS through the chain of command to CSAF for final action. Provides for the MAJCOM/CC as disapproval authority for waivers within the chain of command. Asks commanders to justify why supporting an individual over other qualified candidates who meet the criteria is in the best interest of the Air Force. Changes to CSAF to delegate the approval authority for all age waiver requests (paragraph 1.1.6.); changes the application age and criteria for officers serving in a non-rated AFSC to be on Extended Active Duty (EAD) for 1 year. In addition, applicant must serve the accession AFSC training active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the ADSC, and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (Figure 1.1.); changes the application age criteria for officers serving an Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) education active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the AFIT Education mandatory ADSC and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (Figure 1.1.); changes rated navigators to serve 2 ½ years of rated duty (as a navigator) prior to SUPT entry and may apply with 2 years rated duty (6 months prior) and not exceed the new age and TAFCS criteria without an approved CSAF waiver (Figure 1.1.); adds to criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training, officers of the Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve (AFR) as ineligible, regardless of length of active duty or EAD status. Renders officers ineligible who are pending or have an established Date of Separation (DOS) by request or under 7-day option (Figure 1.1.); changes the address to forward age and TAFCS waivers to HQ AF/DPFFF, 1040 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1040 (Attachment 3, A3.2.); adds the Wing, NAF and MAJCOM support for waiver requests (Attachment 3, A3.3.5.); and changes the office symbol from DPAOY3 TO DPAOT3 throughout the AFI; and converts all bulleted items throughout the publication to a digital numbering scheme. See the last attachment of the publication, IC 99-1, for the complete IC. A bar (|) indicates revision from the previous edition.

1.1.6. Applicants must not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by the start date of the board's first available Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT) class. For those applicants' who do not meet the above criteria, they must submit a complete copy of the UFT application with request for age or TAFCS waiver and will be processed through the applicants immediate Squadron Commander, Wing/CC, NAF/CC, MAJCOM/CC and forward to the CSAF for final action. Since there are sufficient qualified applicants, commanders need to justify why supporting an individual over other qualified candidates who meet the criteria is in the best interest of the Air Force. Within the chain of command, disapproval authority is vested in the MAJCOM/CC. If disapproved, the application will be returned to the applicant. If the requested age or TAFCS waiver is approved by CSAF after the board cut-off date, the applicant will be eligible to compete on the next selection board. Air Force Reserve (AFR) age and TAFCS waiver requests are processed through HQ AFRC/DPMR. Coordinate Air National Guard (ANG) waiver requests through the State Adjutant General to the National Guard Bureau (NGB). The CSAF may delegate the approval authority for all age waiver requests.

Figure 1.1. Eligibility Criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training.

Be a commissioned USAF Officer with a minimum 1 year on Extended Active Duty (EAD) by first available class start date.

Officers serving in a non-rated AFSC must serve the accession AFSC training active duty service commitment (ADSC) and may apply no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the ADSC. Applicants will not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Officers serving an Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) education active duty service commitment (ADSC) (for example, AECP, AFIT School of Engineering, or AFIT civilian institution) may be considered no earlier than 6 months before the officer completes the AFIT Education mandatory active duty service commitment (ADSC). Applicants will not exceed 30 years of age and 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Rated navigators must serve 2 ½ years of rated duty (as a navigator) prior to SUPT entry and may apply with 2 years rated duty (6 months prior). They will not exceed 30 years of age or 5 years of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service (TAFCS) by class entry date without an approved CSAF waiver.

Ineligibility Criteria for Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training

Officers selected for or attending AFIT-funded education programs, until completion of that education.

United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Cadets, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Cadets (AFROTC) and Officer Training School (OTS) Cadets, not on Extended Active Duty (EAD).

Officers as a resource of the Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve (AFR), regardless of length of active duty or EAD status.

Individuals eliminated from any flying training course to include UFT, the USAF Enhanced Flight Screening Program (EFSP), the Pilot Indoctrination Program (PIP), Flight Instruction Program (FIP) and the Introductory Flying Training (IFT) conducted by or for the Armed Forces of the United States, with the following provisions:

1. Those eliminated for military deficiency or self-initiated-elimination (SIE) reasons before, during or after actual course completion, or who decline UFT attendance.

2. Individuals eliminated for reasons other than those mentioned above, unless specifically recommended for further pilot or navigator training by the eliminating (or approving) authority.

Individuals eliminated (for reasons over which they had control) from a commissioning program which forms a part of the sequence in which an aeronautical rating may be obtained from any of the United States Armed Forces.

Officers who hold or held the aeronautical rating of pilot or navigator, or comparable rating in any of the United States Armed Forces. (Officers who held aeronautical ratings in the armed forces may apply for a comparable USAF rating according to AFI 11-402, *Aviation Service, Parachutist, Aeronautical Ratings, and Badges*.)

Officers who self-initiated-elimination (SIE) or are eliminated from any Formal Training Course for Academic Deficiency.

Officers attending UFT who are eliminated for short-term medical reasons (as determined by the eliminating authority) will be re-entered in the same UFT program when they medically requalify. Those officers who are eliminated for medical reasons of a long-term (1 year or more), may reapply for UFT board consideration when they are medically qualified. They must meet all age and eligibility criteria and compete on the first UFT selection board after being medically qualified.

Any officer who declines or declined UFT after being selected, regardless of branch of service.

Officers of the medical and dental (physicians and dentists) corps, chaplains and judge advocates.

Officers permanently disqualified for aviation service at any time.

Officers pending or have an established Date of Separation (DOS) by request or under 7-Day option.

Officers who have any quality control assignment restrictions (AFI 36-2110).

Officers selected for or currently enrolled in a course of training leading to an active duty service commitment (ADSC) requirement, until completion of training. (Applies to initial training only, not follow-on type training.)

Officers selected for or currently enrolled in SUNT are ineligible to apply for pilot training until completion of SUNT and award of aeronautical rating of navigator.

Individuals who have illegally, wrongfully, or improperly experimented with, used, possessed, sold, or transferred any narcotic substance, dangerous drug, intoxicating inhaled substance, or controlled substance as established by Title 21, U.S.C., Section 812 when supported by evidence.

Officers eliminated from SUNT or those officers who have, at any time, voluntarily declined to attend SUNT.

Officers eliminated from pilot training unless specifically recommended by the eliminating (or approving) authority.

Officers who self-initiated-elimination (SIE) or are eliminated from any Formal Training Course for Academic Deficiency.

Attachment 3

AGE WAIVER REQUEST

A3.1. Include (in memo form): Appropriate letterhead; current address; and request for age waiver.

A3.2. Send Age Waiver Requests to: HQ AF/DPFFF
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Washington DC 20330-1040

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A3.3.5. Include names, dates, and other details to document your case. Submit your age or TAFCS waiver request letter with your UFT application package. Your request must include Wing, NAF, and MAJCOM support.

Attachments:

Name, Grade
Service Duty Title